

Illinois Early Learning Council

Access Committee Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2019

Illinois Action for Children- Chatham

1111 East 87th Street, 1st Floor- Suite 400, Conference Room 3

Call In: 866-802-6672 | Passcode: 247437

Welcome & Introductions

- Attendees: Lauren Lansdale, Alyssa Phillips, Peggy McGuire, Paula Corrigan- Halpern, Kathy Villano, Barb Quinn, Tola Alao, Lilian Matsuda, Maria Whelan, Stefi Hernandez, Tracy Occomy Crowder, Marquinta Thomas, Carie Bires, Jamilah Jor'dan, Artiya Nash, Iris Hildreth, Eric Mayo, Donna Emmons, Talibah Moore, Maralda Davis, Jenny Metcalf, Yemuri Aryibic, Stephanie Milano
- Minutes approved, one abstention
- Maria Whelan recognized George Davis for his contribution to the Early Learning Council

All Families Served Committee Update

- Co-chairs provided subcommittee update; meetings for 2020 have been scheduled and information is on the OECD website
- Maria Whelan requested to have Marcia Stoll (Illinois Action for Children) present Child Care Search Report findings at the next January All Families Served meeting

PDG B-5 Grant Review

- Presentation provided by Dr. Jor'dan, Iris Hildreth, and Artiya Nash regarding grant overview and status; presentation and FAQ handout materials available on OECD website; Marquinta emphasized the need for parent involvement when crafting survey questions and during a sensitive data collection process; Tola expressed the need for parents to be fully informed on a data collection process; suggested making video-conferencing an option for parents who would like to participate in activities/ focus groups but cannot leave their homes; Artiya highlighted the desire to incorporate parental feedback and participation as much as possible; Maria stressed that family engagement is at the front and center of the activities for the grant's strategy

Family Implementation Subcommittee Update

- Tracy provided an update on the subcommittee; next meeting is December 4, 2019; FEIS is finalizing elements of Family Advisory Committee (FAC) regarding members, application process, and structure; she discussed the committee's launch, outreach, and selection process; Iris reiterated that the long- term goal is to have FAC groups working independently in every state region, but the current goal is two members per region; there is need for a sustainable plan and monetary support for the parents; Tola requested that participating parents be given health insurance; Maria confirmed the

proposal had been submitted and that health insurance is not provided for these types of positions

Intact Families Discussion

- Maria expressed concern regarding the Intact Family Program and its implementation; the group discussed the 2018 bill's background and legislative interest for the upcoming session; Carie highlighted the adverse effects of multiple transitions for children and expressed concern about the data in agency reporting as the number of Intact Families is unknown; Marquita reiterated the problematic implementation of the bill as there is confusion among case workers and the process; question was posed as to how knowledge is being shared with families; group is eager to find solution in working with state agencies

State Agency Policy Updates

- Dr. Jamilah Jor'dan provided an update regarding the Pritzker Initiative and Illinois'
- FY20 quality awards have been given out; FY20 RFP process has been completed

Announcements

- Maria Whelan read George Davis' written response for his recognition by the Early Learning Council and sent his best wishes to all
- Next meeting is January 29, 2020